

WORKSHEET 9

ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT

OBJECTIVE

Understand what the ecological footprint means

Study our ecological footprint

MATERIAL

Notebook and computer.

INTRODUCTION

Up to now, we have been studying the main characteristics of the city of Barcelona. The environmental quality of Barcelona depends on its green areas and its biodiversity. Later on, we will study how important it is for our health to study items as different as our breathing air and the noise levels. Then we will try to know the relationship between the school and these elements.

We have been able to check that big cities affect and transform deeply some variables as concrete as temperature, and modify natural cycles, cycle of matter, cycle of water. In Barcelona, just like in all the urban areas, a large amount of energy is consumed. The consequences of this energy consumption go farther on the urban premises, the same as air or water or the amount of waste we produce. In the last term, cities are responsible of the environment of the planet. For this reason it is interesting to know about our ecological footprint.

Discover Your Impact

Part of discovering and protecting our local environment is knowing what kind of effect we have on it. Do you want to find out what your impact is?

One way to find out is to discover your ecological footprint: this one is much bigger than the footprint you make with your feet. An ecological footprint is how much space or how much land we need to survive.

You might think that the amount of land you need only includes where you live, where you play, and where you go to school. But it is really much bigger, because it includes the land where the food you eat is grown, where your garbage goes, and much, much more.

Almost everything humans do uses a whole lot of space!

How Big Your Footprint is?

<http://www.stanleyparkecology.ca/programs/activities/howbigft.php>

